

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ACCRA 03201 300721Z

63

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 SMI-01 INT-05 MMO-01 USIA-06 IO-13

/037 W

----- 092214

R 291435Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2331

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 3201

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, OEXC, XJ

SUBJ: SMITHSONIAN AFRICAN DIASPORA PROGRAM

REF: STATE 100968-U

1. EMBASSY'S BASIC JUDGMENT IS IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO APPROACH LOCAL AMERICAN BUSINESS FIRMS HERE TO RESCUE PROJECT WHICH SMITHSONIAN HAD ALREADY UNDERTAKEN TO PROVIDE SUPPORT. FOR SMITHSONIAN TO APPROACH THE HEAD U.S. OFFICES OF THE SAME FIRMS MIGHT IN PRINCIPLE BE QUITE ANOTHER MATTER.

2. HOWEVER, THERE ARE SPECIAL FACTORS ON THE ACCRA SCENE WHICH MAKE IT PREFERABLE IN OUR VIEW NOT TO PURSUE THAT AVENUE EITHER. THEY ARE:

(A) RECEIPT OF REFTEL WAS PRECEDED BY ONE DAY BY ORAL WORD FROM MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE THAT APPROVAL HAD BEEN GRANTED TO ACCEPT SMITHSONIAN INVITATION. AS INITIAL DEADLINE FOR THIS PHASE OF OPERATION HAD BEEN SET AT DECEMBER 1, 1975, THIS MEANS GHANA'S REPLY IS ALMOST EXACTLY FIVE MONTHS LATE, DESPITE NUMEROUS URGINGS BY EMBASSY AT ALL LEVELS INCLUDING AMBASSADOR'S DIRECT APPEAL TO COMMISSIONER. WE STILL HAVE NOT RECEIVED INFORMATION ON NAMES, EQUIPMENT, ETC. WHICH SHOULD HAVE COME WITH REPLY.

(B) IN AFTERMATH OF GHANA'S ABRUPT CANCELLATION OF SECRETARY'S VISIT, EMBASSY DOES NOT FEEL IT SHOULD AT THIS TIME APPEAR TO PUSH PROJECTS OF THIS KIND, MUCH LESS MAKE SPECIAL EFFORT TO RESCUE PROGRAMS WHICH GHANAIAN DELAYS HAVE JEOPARDIZED.

(C) THERE IS ANOTHER PENDING PROJECT FOR WHICH WE DO PLAN TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ACCRA 03201 300721Z

SOLICIT LOCAL AMERICAN BUSINESS SUPPORT WHICH WE BELIEVE

IS CLOSER TO THEIR INTERESTS AND OURS AND MORE APPROPRIATE UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. EMBASSY WOULD NOT LIKE TO JEOPARDIZE THAT SUPPORT WITH EFFORT TO PROP UP SMITHSONIAN PROJECT. THIS PROJECT IS A FUND, ALREADY STARTED UNDER ASUPICES OF GHANA ASSOCIATION OF ALUMNI OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES, TO PROVIDE TRAVEL TO U.S. FOR GHANAIAN STUDENTS FOR WHOM THIS WOULD MAKE POSSIBLE ACCEPTANCE OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS.

3. IT IS THEREFORE EMBASSY'S RECOMMENDATION, IN SPECIAL CASE OF GHANA, THAT SMITHSONIAN BE ADVISED TO INFORM GOG THAT IN VIEW OF LATENESS OF THEIR REPLY IT WILL NO LONGER BE POSSIBLE TO INCLUDE GHANAIAN TROUP IN PLANS FOR THIS SUMMER'S FOLK FESTIVAL PROGRAM.

LINEHAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ACCRA03201
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760166-0042
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976049/aaaaahdz.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2004 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <13 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SMITHSONIAN AFRICAN DIASPORA PROGRAM
TAGS: OTRA, OEXC, XJ
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006